

CHILDREN AFFECTED BY METHAMPHETAMINE DUNKLIN AND STODDARD COUNTIES, MISSOURI

Lead Agency:

35th Judicial Circuit
Family Dependency
Treatment Court
(FDTC)

Geographic Area and Congressional District Served:

Stoddard and Dunklin
Counties;
Congressional
District 8

Federal Grant:

\$365,328/4 years

Evaluation Design:

Pre-post design,
treatment group only

Proposed Number Served (4 Years):

Children: 160
Adults: 80

Project Description

The Missouri Dunklin and Stoddard Counties' Children Affected by Methamphetamine (CAM) project is expanding and enhancing the services provided to children and families participating in the 35th Judicial Circuit Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC). This project focuses on ensuring that parents in recovery use effective parenting techniques. Key elements of the CAM project include:

- ***Nurturing Parenting group component*** – an evidence-based parenting program that focuses on prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect in families with children ages 5–18. Parents and children participate in weekly sessions which cover 17 topics including self-esteem, communication and parenting skills;
- ***Nurturing Parenting in-home component*** – a family-based program for the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect in families with children under the age of 5;
- ***Parents as Teachers*** – an early childhood family support and parent education home-visiting model;
- ***Alumni groups*** – for FDTC graduates;
- ***Case management*** – for all family members.

Target Population

This project serves families in rural southeastern Missouri. The combined population of Dunklin and Stoddard Counties is 60,000. Services are provided to children ages 0–17 and their parents who are participating in the FDTC. Foster parents and other adult relatives significant in the lives of these children are also supported with CAM services.

Major Project Goals

- Develop an effective case management system;
- Increase access to supportive services for children and families;
- Increase clients' understanding of healthy child development.

Partner Agencies and Organizations

The Dunklin and Stoddard Counties CAM Project includes the following partners:

Child Welfare

- Dunklin County, Children's Division
- Stoddard County, Children's Division

Substance Abuse

- Family Counseling Center

Courts

- 35th Judicial Circuit Family Dependency Treatment Court

Health Services

- Missouri Department of Social Services
- Kennett Pediatrics and Adolescents
- Southern Missouri (SEMO) Health Network

Education

- Kennett Public Schools – Parents as Teachers
- Head Start
- University of Missouri Extension Center

Other Community and Child and Family Services

- Family Focus, LLC, Parent Aids
- Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program
- Leonard and Virgie Younger's Place
- Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Dunklin County

CAM Program Description

Children Affected by Methamphetamine is a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funded grant program focused on expanding and/or enhancing services to children and their families who are affected by methamphetamine use and abuse. The Public Health Service Act of 2000 Section 509 provided funding over a four-year period to 12 Family Treatment Drug Courts (FTDC) to improve the well-being, permanency, and safety outcomes of children, who are in, or at-risk of out-of-home placement as a result of parental methamphetamine or other substance abuse.

Performance Indicators

The Dunklin and Stoddard Counties CAM Project is evaluating their performance on outcomes for children and adults using the following performance indicators. Due to a significantly lower budget, this project is not using the same cross-site performance measures as the other eleven CAM projects.

Child/Youth Indicators

- Permanency Status

Adult Indicators

- Retention in Substance Abuse Treatment
- In-Program Recidivism
- Substance Use
- Units of Service Delivery

Contact Information

Project Director

Julie C. Spielman
Drug Court Administrator
P.O. Box 805
103 S. Main, Suite C
Kennett, MO 63857
(573) 888-6882
julie.spielman@courts.mo.gov

Children's Service Coordinator

Lisa Dunham
P.O. Box 805
103 S. Main, Suite C
Kennett, MO 63857
(573) 888-6882
lisa.dunham@courts.mo.gov

Evaluator

Robert A. Kirchner
Glacier Consulting Inc.
327 Hillsmere Drive
Annapolis, MD 21403
(410) 212-0499
bobkirchner@gmail.com